

THE CAMBRIDGE FREEMAN. EPHRATA, PA., Friday Morning, - January 23, 1874.

COL. ROBERT E. WITHERS Democrat, was elected United States Senator last week by the Legislature of Virginia for six years from the 4th of March next, in place of John P. Lewis, Radical, whose term will then expire. Col. Wither's is the present Lieutenant Governor of his State. Hon. William McKinney Whyte was also last week elected to the Senate by the Maryland Legislature for six years from the 4th of next March. Mr. Whyte is the present Democratic Governor of Maryland and will succeed Wm. T. Hamilton, Democrat.

We neglected to state last week that the Attorney General of the State has given a written opinion, that under the new constitution all Justices of the Peace must appear before the Recorder of the county in which they reside within thirty days after its adoption, and take and subscribe an oath to support it. As the Governor issued his proclamation declaring the constitution adopted on the 7th of January, the oath, if taken any time before the 7th of February, would comply with the decision of the Attorney General. Justices of the Peace will do well to attend to this matter without delay.

ALTHOUGH at the State election in Texas, which was held on the 3d of December, the Radical candidate for Governor (Davis) was defeated by his Democratic competitor (Coke) by almost fifty thousand majority, he refused to surrender up his office, and undertook to imitate the example of Joseph Ritner in this State on a memorable occasion and to treat the election as if it had never taken place. Davis appealed to Grant to lend him a few thousand United States soldiers to enable him to consummate his impudent usurpation, but Grant, having burnt his fingers by having done the same thing for Kellom in Louisiana, respectfully declined to comply with Davis' demand, and suggested to him that it would be eminently "prudent as well as right to yield to the verdict of the people as expressed by their ballots." For giving Davis this excellent advice, Grant is entitled to much credit, and by promptly acting on it Davis has extricated himself from a dilemma which in the end might have been extremely unpleasant, if not personally disastrous, to him. Coke has assumed the duties of his office, and the Legislature being strongly Democratic, Texas has now fairly started on the highway of future peace and prosperity.

It is understood that a movement will soon be made to secure the publication of the entire mass of rebel archives now in the hands of the Government. Does Hon. Mr. Buckalew quibble?—John A. Crittenden, Hon. Mr. Buckalew does not quibble, but is as calm as a summer morning. When he was the Democratic candidate for Governor, in 1872, the Radical press in this State, including the Tribune, sought to injure his reputation by making the false charge that during the rebellion he had visited Canada and had been in secret consultation with Clement C. Clay, Jacob Thompson, and other Southern leaders, who were then temporarily residing in that country. Mr. Buckalew exploded the vile calumny by showing that his visit to Canada was made by him as one of a committee appointed by the Senate of the United States, of which body he was then a member—that the purpose of the committee had reference to some important business interests of the country—that he was casually introduced to Clay and Thompson in a public hotel, and that the conversation between them did not last over five minutes. The head and front of his offending had this extent and no more. The patriotic career of Charles R. Buckalew while he was in the Senate is iron clad not only against the "rebel archives," but even against the malignant insinuations of so loyal a sheet as the Johnstown Tribune.

In his selection of the standing committees of the State Senate, Mr. Strang, the Speaker of that body, has shown a spirit of political liberality as magnanimous as it is exceptional. Such leading Democratic Senators as Wallace and Dill are made chairmen of two of the five sub-committees on constitutional reform, while Mr. Playford is assigned a position on another of the same important committees. The chairmanship of the committee on municipal affairs is given to Col. McClure, the best qualified man in the Senate for that responsible position. In addition to this, Senator Chalfant and Senator Albright are placed at the head of two important committees. Mr. Strang has thus ignored partisan feeling to an extent which has been very rare with men of his party occupying the same position, and has proven that in his opinion Democrats have rights which Republicans are bound to respect.

The Republican Speaker of the House, Mr. McCormick, took good care not to follow the excellent example set him by Mr. Strang. He has constituted the Committee on legislative apportionment, which consists of thirteen members, by appointing three Democrats and three Republicans, and the notorious Sam Jones. There are four counties which are to be divided in the formation of representative districts, the new constitution having apportioned the balance of the State. These counties are Philadelphia, Schuylkill, Luzerne and Allegheny. Philadelphia has no Democrat on the committee, nor has Schuylkill or Luzerne, both strong Democratic counties. This committee will also be required to apportion the State into fifty Senatorial districts, so that we may expect a repetition of the unjust and infamous gerrymanders which have heretofore disgraced the Legislature and defrauded the Democracy of the State out of its just political power. There is some hope, however, that the Senate may coerce the House into the passage of a fair and decent bill. If this is not done the people will rebuke the fraud.

Cushing's Letter to Davis.

Following is the letter addressed by Caleb Cushing to Jefferson Davis, the discovery of which, it is said, induced Grant to withdraw his nomination as Chief Justice from the Senate:

WASHINGTON, March 20, 1861. DEAR SIR: Mr. Archibald Roane, for the last six or seven years a clerk in the Attorney General's office, desires from me a letter of introduction to you, and he desires me in the view of anticipating administration favors, but that he may have the honor of your personal introduction. Of this I take pleasure in assuring you, he is entitled to it. A Southern man by birth, family, and affection, he has carefully studied and ably discussed, in Mr. De Bow's Review and other Southern works, the merits of the Union, and has gradually undermined, and have at length overturned the American Union. Whilst a practical man, he is also a distinguished scholar, with independent, predominant literary tastes and habits. In the discharge of his official duties he has combined in a singular degree the purity of integrity and most enlightened intelligence with modest contentment in his lot, having more than once declined offices of more conspicuous employment in the public service. He never resigns his position from sentiments of devotion to that which alone he can feel to be his country, namely the Confederate States, from one of which he has just resigned his office, and he has been commended by a gentleman and a man to your confidence and esteem. And I am, with the highest consideration, your obedient servant, C. CUSHING.

Hon. Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States. It will be observed that this letter was written three weeks before hostilities were commenced by the attack on Fort Sumpter. If it be a treasonable document, then Gen. Scott was as much a traitor as Caleb Cushing, because about the same time he declared himself willing to let "our erring sister depart in peace." No man ever dared to brand General Scott with entertaining treasonable motives, and the most that can be imputed to him is that he was mistaken in his judgment. Caleb Cushing no doubt believed in March, 1861, as Gen. Scott and scores of others of our public men believed, that the union of the States was broken up and destroyed, and although the result proved otherwise, we are unable to perceive the justice of charging them with a crime for having entertained and expressed that opinion. Even Horace Greeley, after Pope's disastrous defeat at the second battle of Bull Run, had so little faith in the success of the North in quelling the rebellion, that he proposed in the New York Tribune to decide the question of the permanent existence of the Southern Confederacy by the result of one pitched battle, and was only cured of this delusion by the subsequent superb and magnificent generalship of George B. McClellan on the bloody field of Antietam. If, however, Caleb Cushing entertained any doubts about the existence of the Union on the 21st of March, 1861, he was willing to risk his life in its defence on the 25th of April, only one month afterwards, as will be seen from his letter to the Governor of Massachusetts, as follows:

NEWBURYPORT, April 25, 1861.—SIR: I beg leave to tender myself to you in any capacity, however humble, in a wish that it may be possible for me to contribute to the public weal in the present critical emergency. I have no desire to survive the overthrow of the Government of the United States, and I am ready for any sacrifice to avert such a catastrophe, and I ask only to be permitted to lay down my life in the service of the Commonwealth and the Union.

I am, Very Respectfully, C. CUSHING. His Excellency, John A. Andrews, Governor of the Commonwealth. This does not sound like the language of a man who sympathized with the rebellion. The imputation of treason against Mr. Cushing is an after thought. Did not grant appoint, and did not a loyal Senate confirm John A. J. Creswell, of Maryland, as Postmaster General, who drew up secession resolutions and undertook to raise a company for the Confederate service? Grant also appointed and a subservient Senate confirmed General James Longstreet, the next ablest military chieftain in the South to Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson, to the lucrative position of naval officer at New Orleans, James L. Orr, of South Carolina, an uncompromising rebel, was rewarded by being sent as Minister to Russia.

We are neither the defender nor apologist of Cushing, never having admitted him since he assisted in disrupting the Democratic party when he was president of the national Democratic Convention at Charleston, in 1860. It is plain to our mind, however, that his letter to Davis was only a pretext for his withdrawal, and not the controlling reason for it, in order to subvert the ulterior designs of certain Radical Senators.

CONGRESS has at last heeded the universal demand of the country and repealed the extra pay statute, fixing the salary of its members at what it was prior to 3d of March, 1873—\$5,000. The new law, however, restores the fraudulent mileage clause, under the operation of which over two hundred thousand dollars will be fished from the Treasury. A member of Congress from California or Oregon with a railroad pass in his pocket will receive almost as much pay in the shape of mileage as the full amount of his salary. There is no other name for this thial will robbery. The members who clutched the grab are not affected by the change of salary. They took the spoils like a thief would pick a pocket, and having made sure of the booty, will keep it. There will be a fearful shaking of the political bones of these salary-grabbers when the next Congressional elections take place. Several efforts were made to reduce Grant's pay to its original \$25,000, but the friends of that impudent gentleman were afraid to incur his wrath, and hence he will continue to draw his share of the shamelous plunder.

ON last Monday Grant again tried his "pretence hand" on the Chief Justiceship and nominated to the Senate Morrison R. Waite, of Toledo, Ohio, President of the Constitutional Convention of that State, whom it is fair to presume the Senate will confirm, as it would be folly to suppose that a fourth effort by Grant would be an improvement on his third choice. Mr. Waite is a respectable man and a fair lawyer, but while such Republicans as Benj. R. Curtis, of Boston, and Wm. M. Everts, of New York, are in existence he should never have been thought of for Chief Justice of the United States. P. S. Waite was confirmed on Wednesday.

Statement.

The sober second thought, or rather the sober second act of the Representatives of the people, in considering the privilege they could by one act of Congress, restore the status of Congressional pay; but this is an atonement for the outrage? This act, which the people have constrained their servants to pass, is by no means a voluntary proceeding on the part of delinquent Congressmen. On the contrary, they have been shamed into it by the just demands of their constituents. There was no honor originally in passing such an act, nor is there any honor due to most of the members for its repeal. The country requires only one act more in this national farce, and that is a veto from the President. That would be glorious! Let us imagine a veto message: "Gentlemen: I have carefully considered the rash act which you have just passed; but I cannot allow your responsibility to be removed. I therefore return it with my objections. If you can pass it again, by a two-third's vote, I will no longer object. My objections are three. First, you should have reduced my salary to what it was before, and allowed me the privilege of being honored along with the rest as an honest man. Second, you should have censured me, as well as yourselves, for attempting a mean trick upon the country. Third, you should have praised the independent press, which has done so much for you, and allowed me the privilege of being honored along with the rest as an honest man. Second, you should have censured me, as well as yourselves, for attempting a mean trick upon the country. Third, you should have praised the independent press, which has done so much for you, and allowed me the privilege of being honored along with the rest as an honest man. Second, you should have censured me, as well as yourselves, for attempting a mean trick upon the country. 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